

Comparing prices worksheet

The following chart can help you compare offers from different companies. Remember: individual companies may offer two or more of the services listed below.

	Company A	Company B	Company C
Basic local service			
Monthly service charge			
Per minute rate (local measured service)			
Per call rate			
Taxes, fees and surcharges			
Deposit, if any			
Cancellation fee, if any			
Other fees (e.g., switching fee)			
Toll service			
Monthly service charge			
In-state toll rate (day, eve, weekend)			
Out-of-state toll rate (day, eve, weekend)			
International rate			
Taxes, fees and surcharges			
Deposit, if any			
Other fees (e.g., switching fee)			
Calling card rates			
Optional services			
Caller ID			
Call waiting			
Voice mail			
Other			

Some other questions to ask when shopping for phone service:

- Do any initial charges apply, such as installation or carrier change fee?
- How long will it take to start service?
- Is there a minimum volume of calls, minutes, or charges per month?
- Can I carry any unused credits to the next month's bill?
- Will I be billed at a flat rate, a per minute rate, or a per call rate?
- Will my local calling area change?
- How long must I commit to the company?
- If a service plan requires a term commitment, what is the penalty for early cancellation?
- What incentive, if any, is the company offering to get me to switch?